23rd February 1955]

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am sorry I have not been following the programme of the committee quite closely. I cannot give the names of places visited by it off-hand."

SRI T. M. DAIVASIKAMANI ACHARIAR :—" What is the approximate time within which the work of the committee will be over? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Visit to the various places will be over by April."

Bifurcation of Sattur taluk.

* 185 *Q.*—SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to bifurcate Sattur taluk so as to form a separate taluk by name Virudhunagar taluk in Ramanathapuram district ; and

(*b*) if so, at what stage it stands at present?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) No Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Is there any proposal to split up any of the taluks in Chingleput and North Arcot districts? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" We are on Ramanathapuram district."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" I am referring to it, arising out of the main question."

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI :—" நீதிநிர்வாகப் பிரிவினைக்கு முன்பு, விருதுநகர் பிராந்தியம் ஒரு sub-taluk ஆகயிருந்து, அங்கே ஒரு டிப்டி தாசில்தார்-ஸப்-மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் கோர்ட்டிருந்தது இப்பொழுது அங்கே சின்னஞ் சிறு இனும்களெல்லாம் ஒழிக்கப்பட்டு, அந்த இடத்தில் அதிக வேலையிருக்கிறது என்று பொது மக்கள் கருதுவதினால், சாத்தூர் தாலூகாவை இரண்டாகப் பிரிவினை செய்வது பற்றி சர்க்கார் யோசிப் பார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" If a strong case is made out for it, it will be considered."

Grant of concessions to ex-tappers for tapping neera.

* 186 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state— 3–20 p.m.

(*a*) the concessions granted to ex-tappers for tapping neera ;

(*b*) whether any licence fee is levied for the above purpose ; and

[23rd February 1955

(c) whether the Government have considered any proposal to permit ex-tappers to sell neera and if so, the orders passed thereon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) The concessions granted to ex-tappers for tapping are as follows :—

(i) Tapping of palmyra trees for sweet toddy for the purpose of jaggery manufacture through co-operative societies has been permitted throughout the State;

(ii) Tapping of coconut trees for the said purpose is allowed in select areas of Coimbatore, Malabar and South Kanara districts. In North Arcot and Malabar districts, tapping of date trees and sago trees is also allowed respectively for the same purpose.

(iii) Sale and consumption of sweet toddy as a beverage is allowed throughout Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts.

(iv) In South Kanara, Salem and Madurai districts; a few jaggery societies have been permitted to run neera parlours. In Madras City, such parlours are run in summer season and in the exhibitions conducted annually by Congress and other organizations.

" (b) No Sir.

" (c) A proposal to introduce a State-wide neera scheme has been dropped in the interest of Prohibition."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Is there any proposal to permit by licence the tapping of trees as a general scheme for non-alcohol purposes, of course, say, for the manufacture of sweet toddy, jaggery, etc., referred to by the Hon. Minister? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I do not know whether it is possible. But there is the possibility of misusing the licence if licence is given in that respect."

Additional staff employed for Prohibition enforcement work.

* 187 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased—

(a) to lay on the table of the House a list showing details of the additional staff and officers employed in the Police Department for the Prohibition enforcement work recently taken over by that department; and

(b) to state the total saving effected by Government by the transfer of the above work to the Police Department?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) The staff sanctioned for the Excise and Prohibition Department, both permanent and temporary, has been divided between the Board of Revenue (Excise) for residuary work and the